CASE CO/2-22789/EFK 7/PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PCT NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION OF

Group Art Unit:

HARM-JAN KOK ET AL

Examiner:

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP 03/12582

FILED: NOVEMBER 11, 2003

FOR: AQUEOUS EMULSION POLYMER AS

DISPERSANT

U.S. APPLICATION NO:

35 USC 371 DATE:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit the present Preliminary Amendment to place the instant claims in better condition for examination on their merits.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-1935.